



VIRGINIA CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINE REVIEW PANEL: 2005

Senator Frederick M. Quayle, Chairman

Joseph S. Crane, DCSE representative & panel staff director

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MEETING MINUTES

June 8, 2005

**House Room D - General Assembly building
Richmond, Virginia**

(Approved by Motion: July 11, 2005)

The following members were present: Senator Frederick Quayle; Delegate Michele McQuigg; Judge Anne Holton; Judge Wilford Taylor; Mr. Richard Byrd; Mr. Joseph Crane; Mr. Brian Hawkins; Mr. Rob Ingalls; Ms. Leslie Sorkhe. (Delegate Clifford Athey participated by teleconference for information and questions only, due to FOIA advance notice requirements.)

The following members were absent: Delegate William Barlow; Ms. Amy Atkinson; Mr. Lawrence Diehl; Ms. Deborah Parham; Ms. Janipher Robinson.

Guests included: Vicky Turetsky, senior staff attorney, Center for Law & Social Policy; Laura Morgan, Family Law Consulting, and author of *Child Support Guidelines: Interpretation and Application*.

The second meeting of the Secretary's 2005 Child Support Guideline Review Panel was held on Wednesday, June 8, 2005 at 9:00am in House Room D of the General Assembly building at the Capitol in Richmond, Virginia.

Chairman Frederick Quayle called the meeting to order at 9:00am, requesting review of the previous meeting's (4/19/05) minutes.

Delegate McQuigg moved the minutes be accepted, and they were approved by voice vote.

Chairman Quayle immediately moved the Panel to the one hour period for public comment. Eleven individuals from the public at large addressed the Panel for five minutes each on a variety of

guideline and related issues. The chairman noted for the record that the Panel will also schedule later in its deliberations a public hearing to allow full public input and comment on the Panel's proceedings.

Chairman Quayle next welcomed guest Vicky Turetsky, who provided a presentation concerning policies in the child support guidelines that impact low income families. Many of Ms. Turetsky's comments revolved around the general question: How do you maximize resources for children in situations where both parents are at the low end of the income scale? Her presentation generated questions and requests for information, as well as potential legislative language for some of the issues raised. Ms. Turetsky will supply the Panel---through DCSE staff---requested information and materials, and offered to return before the Panel to discuss these items further.

Chairman Quayle next welcomed Laura Morgan, who provided a global overview of child support guidelines throughout the separate jurisdictions in the United States. Ms. Morgan's comments generated much discussion and requests for hard copies of research citations so mentioned, as well as sample legislative language regarding some issues, and Ms. Morgan's opinion on top national concerns relative to guidelines. Ms. Morgan offered to return to the Panel, and to supply specific materials the Panel requests. She also directed Panel members to her website www.supportguidelines.com where many of the materials she referred to in her presentation reside.

The Chairman thanked both guests for their time, and expressed appreciation on behalf of the Panel for their willingness to return to work with the Panel further. It is anticipated both guests will be asked to return.

Chairman Quayle next recognized Panel Board member Richard Byrd, who provided a detailed presentation regarding his proposal to adjust the current child support Guideline to more accurately reflect the impact of inflation.

Chairman Quayle next recognized Panel Board member Robert Ingalls, who provided a detailed presentation on the subject of shared custody child support, which he summarized as recognizing that both parents have a financial obligation to the child's needs at both households in shared custody situations. Mr. Ingalls's presentation culminated in a proposal to alter the current Guideline by dividing the Guideline amounts into two categories reflecting fixed and variable expenses, and using a formula he believes will apply each parent's obligation under an income shares scenario more fairly than the current Guideline.

Chairman Quayle noted for the record that incorporated into the presentations of both Mr. Byrd and Mr. Ingalls was some Panel discussion regarding their respective advantages, disadvantages and implications. The chairman noted that further discussion regarding the two presentations was expected in future meetings.

Having no other business before the Panel, Chairman Quayle declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph S. Crane". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J" and a prominent "S".

Joseph S. Crane